

1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Current Interest Items

1. Early Retirement

When the Rules Committee considered our early retirement bill (H.R. 8427) on 9 October, certain members objected to a lack of specificity in establishing the conditions of service which would qualify an individual for coverage under this retirement system. After further consultation, the Committee agreed on 11 October to schedule the bill for two hours' debate on the floor of the House but with the understanding that an amendment would be proposed to clarify these conditions. Suitable language has been developed which would overcome the objections of the Rules Committee but which does not limit our intended application of this program.

3. Solicitation for Health Insurance Programs

The Civil Service Commission recently announced its intention of withdrawing approval of the National Postal Union as a carrier under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. The CSC said its action is based on alleged violation by the Postal Union of CSC regulations concerning advertising and soliciting. The CSC alleges that the National Postal Union has continued to advertise its plan and to solicit enrollment of Federal employees in that plan contrary to CSC instructions and despite repeated warnings by the CSC.

As you know, the Agency continually recommends selection of our GEHA plan over any other plan to employees who may be required to serve overseas and we have been concerned in the past that this action on our part might be construed as a violation of the Civil Service regulations. In order to resolve any question on this score, [redacted] met with Andrew Ruddock of the Commission on 21 May 1963 and explained that the Agency has unofficially urged all employees to enroll in the GEHA plan because of cover and security reasons. Mr. Ruddock responded that he appreciated our particular problems and that our practice was not even in technical violation of the Commission's requirements.

We have re-examined our record of this discussion in light of the recent announcement concerning the National Postal Union and believe there is no cause for concern about our own practices in this regard.

DOCUMENT NO.

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

AUTH: HR 70-2

DATE 12/03/90

REVIEWER

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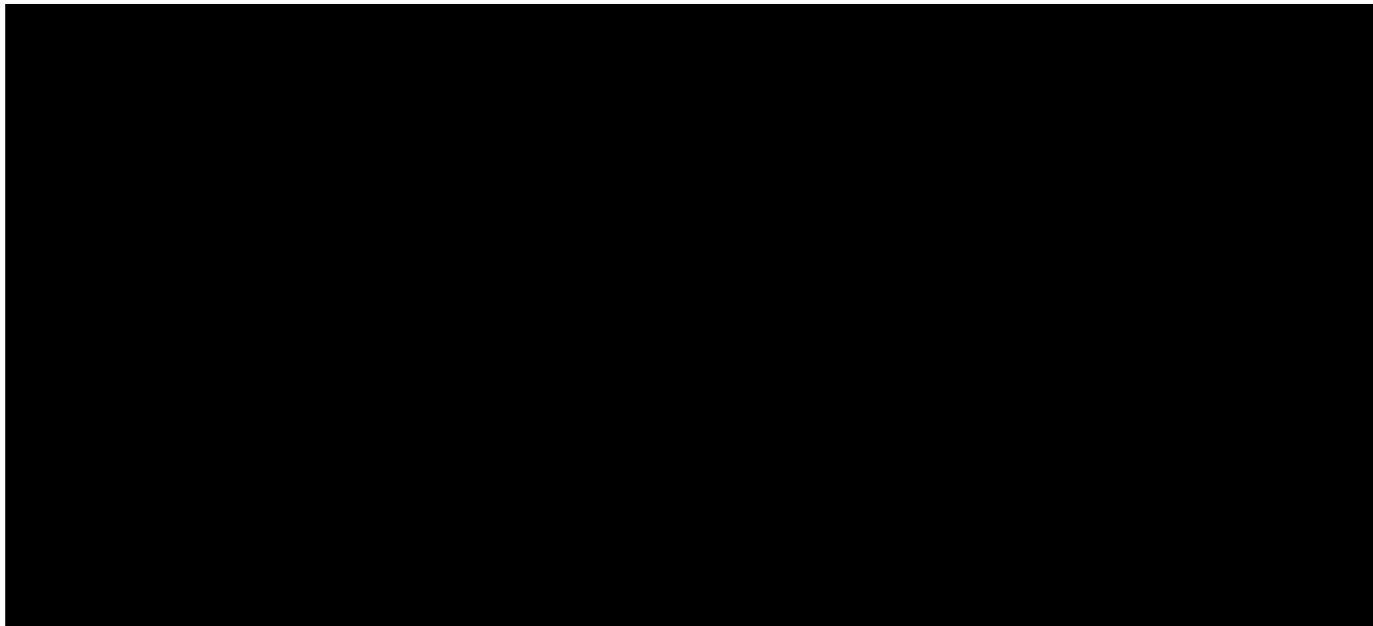
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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SUBJECT: Current Interest Items

4. Employment of the Mentally Retarded

Our last report mentioned the President's memorandum urging that employment opportunities be made available to the Mentally Retarded. Both the Chief, Medical Staff and the Director of Security have advised us about the feasibility of employing such persons in the security environment of CIA. The Chief, Medical Staff indicated that it was his professional judgement that we could not expect retarded individuals to fit in with the security atmosphere which surrounds all employees of the Agency regardless of their specific duties and responsibilities. He also observed that retarded persons would be susceptible to being dupes and that this factor would increase the hazard of exposing such individuals to classified information. The Director of Security concluded in his remarks that the employment of mentally retarded persons is not desirable because of "the inherent security problems involved." In view of this advice, we do not intend to pursue further our exploration of employment opportunities in the Agency for mentally retarded individuals.



6. Special Interest Applicant [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has been fully cleared for employment in the Office of Basic Intelligence in the position of Intelligence Officer (Gen) GS-7. She has been advised that everything is in order for her to enter on duty and we expect her to set an EOD date shortly. (P.S. She will EOD 21 October.)

7. Conference for University Associates and Field Recruiters

We believe that the recent conference of the University Associates and Field Recruitment Officers held during the week of 7 October was our most successful meeting with either of these groups. We are compiling our notes on the various suggestions made and will report further regarding follow-up action.

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SUBJECT: Current Interest Items

8. Quality Step Increases

Since our last report, 10 Quality Step Increases have been approved bringing the grand total to 152. One of these represented the resubmission of a recommendation which had been returned to the sponsoring office for further justification. In another case, the sponsoring office withdrew its nomination after further review.

/s/ Emmett D. Echols

Emmett D. Echols
Director of Personnel

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OD/Pers/ [REDACTED] (16 October 1963)

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